

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by*



*Marcy, Eric & Amy  
in honor of  
Kurt's 12th birthday*

*Carol Curry  
in memory of  
Lucille & Burt McCormick*



Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2013 Flower Reservation Chart" on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Thank you to those providing flowers each week In Honor/In Memory of someone or an anniversary/birthday!

#### BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

**Sunday, December 14th:** Paul Means, Kurt Kemerer  
**Monday, December 15th:** Lois Marsh, Christy Rickrode, Stephanie Rickrode  
**Tuesday, December 16th:** Bailey Shields, Cheryl Roberts  
**Wednesday, December 17th:** Melanie Brown, Chris Curvin  
**Thursday, December 18th:** Helen Burke, Carol Hersh, Nicole Makal, Kelsey Propst Cauchi  
**Friday, December 19th:** Jan Risberg, Stephen Williams  
**Saturday, December 20th:** Jacqueline Cole-Graziano, Sandy Seckel, Jere Gunderman, Karen Gipson

*If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen them in church recently, give them a call!*

## EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

### 8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-5<sup>th</sup> Grade (2014/15 School Year), Room 3, join us in the multi-age Sunday School worship class after the Children's Message.  
*Teacher: Justine Ruisz*

### 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**3 Yr. Olds-Kindergarten (14/15 School Year) Room 3**  
*Teachers: Kim Blackmore & Claire Hamilton*

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades Room 16**

Students will remain with their teachers, in the front pews, for the whole service today. *Teachers: Nancy Turner & Billie Nesmith*

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades Room 8**

Students will remain with their teachers, in the front pews, for the whole service today. *Teachers: Bridgette & Roger Ulrich*

### 11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds – 5<sup>th</sup> grade (14/15 school year) join us as we bring the Bible to Action through games and activities in room 3 beginning at 11:00. Children will move to room 3 at 11:20 where they can be picked up after service. Should your child like to attend service up until the Children's message, they can join in on the fun in room 3 after the Children's Message or remain in worship with their parents.

*Teacher: Barbara Englehart & Nancy Stevens*

### Middle & High School Christian Education

Come join us for combined middle/high school Sunday school. We will be studying the "Elements" of our faith. Through new and exciting curriculum, we will learn how to grow in our walk with God.

9:30 AM Youth Room  
11:00 AM Youth Room

### Children Welcome to the Lord's Table

*Parents, if you wish for your children to receive communion please have them remain with you in the worship service on Communion Sundays. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact Elder Jackie Koski (jackieandjerry@verizon.net), Chair of Worship Team. (Communion is normally celebrated on the first Sunday of each month).*

### 9:30 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

#### SERENDIPITY—Rooms 13 & 15

**TODAY:** Join us as we study different Biblical Figures each week! Coffee and cookies are provided!

#### TCI (Today's Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11

**TODAY:** Bill Bitner will conduct the class today that will deal with a woman that has a long unresolved guilt. The lesson is taken from the *Wired Word*. Coffee and cookies are in addition to a lively discussion.

### 11:00 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

#### EXPERIENCING GOD – Rooms 13 & 15

**TODAY:** Led by Vicki Krueger.

#### HYMN NOTES: "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" (100)

This lively Advent hymn was written and the music arranged by parish musician, Rory Cooney (b. 1952) in the year 1990. It sings like a ballad and is a thoughtful paraphrase of the Magnificat—the song of Mary at her visit with Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55). Cooney is an accomplished composer and writer and currently serves at St. Anne's RC Church in Barrington IL. The hymn, although sung in the Roman Catholic Church for nearly 25 years, is becoming popular in other churches as well, now appearing in eleven hymnals. The tune is an old Irish ballad set in Bainbridge in County Down, Northern Ireland. It is almost identical to the English tune KINGSFOLD which appears four times in our *Glory to God* hymnal. That may be why you think you've known this new hymn for a long time!

# Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

*A Stephen Ministry Church*

**December 14, 2014**



### Ministers: All Members of the Church

E. Chris Curvin, Pastor  
Paul Means, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission

### Northwood Presbyterian Church

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## FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

### ACOLYTES:

(8:15) James Birch  
(11:00) Garland Pelham



### GREETERS:

(8:15) Bill Marshall & Alice Nisk  
(11:00) Dean & Pat Rabenstine

### USHERS:

(8:15) Ken & Linda Andreassen  
Roland & Sheena Watkins  
(9:30) Curt and Vicki Krueger  
(11:00) Pete & Evelyn Towns  
Dane & Vicki Phillips

### VAN DRIVER: Ed Puschmann

### IGNITE SERVICE READERS:

Babs Bailey  
Curtis Krueger

### VOICES IN PRAISE:

Lex Long, Gary Granata, Larry Stephen, Dave Basti, Mark Johnston, Dan Jeffre, Will Parker, Janet Winder, Cindy Huffman, Linda Granata, Stephanie Carson

### HORNS IN PRAISE:

Emily Cantin, Steve Cantin, Eric Kemerer, Eric Briggs, Spencer Briggs,



**Greeters &  
Ushers**

Order for the Public Worship of God  
3rd Sunday of Advent  
8:15 & 11:00 AM December 14, 2014

WE GATHER

(Let the congregation be silent, and in prayer as the music begins.  
Please silence electronic devices.)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Veni, veni Emmanuel” Noël Goemanne  
(Acolytes symbolically bring in the light of Christ & then take it out into the world.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST  
(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and pass it toward the center aisle.)

\*HYMN #88 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” VENI EMMANUEL  
(stanzas 1,4,5)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

(Choir) When shepherds came to see the baby, torches lit the way  
So they could find the stable where little Jesus lay.

Lighting the Candle and Prayer  
(8:15) David, Kimberly, Shaun & Sarah Flaherty  
(11:00) Chris, Dee, Drew & Julie Bryant

All sing:

Two staves of musical notation for the hymn "We light the Ad-vent can - dle to shine on us to - day, to give us joy, to make us warm while we a- wait the com - ing of Christ - mas Day."

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)  
Mighty God: by your love and providence is Christ born among us. We confess that we have not always believed in him and the wonder he brings to all of life, but fall into doubt and fear. Set us free in the victory of Jesus Christ, who was born of the virgin Mary, died for the sins of the world, and now lives among us so that our joy may be full. Keep us faithful in our trials so that we may receive the wonderful inheritance you have prepared for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #88 (Stanza 6) VENI EMMANUEL  
O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

ANTHEM “The Holly Bears a Berry” arr. Howard Helvey  
4-hand piano: Stephanie Carson, Tom Huffman  
Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who was wrapped up in silk:  
Refrain: And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,  
And the first tree in the green-wood, it was the holly.

Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross: Refrain

Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all: Refrain

Now the holly bears a berry as blood is it red,  
Then trust we our Saviour, who rose from the dead: Refrain

FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN (Children age 3 (by 9/14) through fifth grade may go to Room 3 for Children’s Worship.)

WE UNITE IN PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER  
“Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

WE SHARE

CALL TO OFFERING  
MUSICAL OFFERING Wayne L. Wold  
“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”  
(based on the hymn at #377 in Glory to God)

\*DOXOLOGY—#606 OLD HUNDREDTH  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below:  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (page 925) Romans 16:17-20, 25-27 (NRSV)

\*HYMN #100 “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”  
STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

SCRIPTURE READING (page 831) Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV)

SERMON “It’s a Wonderful Life” Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

\*HYMN #104 “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”  
(stanzas 1,3) VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

\*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Savior of the Nations, Come” Friedrich Zachau  
(based on the Advent hymn at #102 in Glory to God)

(You are invited to remain for the final act of worship, the closing voluntary. A closer look is welcomed if you wish to come stand next to the organ console.)

Stephanie Carson, Music Director  
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director  
\*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.

ignite  
ignite is a contemporary worship service at 9:30 that delivers the message of Jesus Christ through Powerful Music, Media & Scripture Based Sermons.

LET THE COUNTDOWN BEGIN

WELCOME

“Joy to the Word (Unspeakable Joy)”

MEET & GREET  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

“Advent Candle Song”

Solo: Lindsey Peterson  
Lighting the Candle

Larry, Jeanne, Liana & Jeremy Stephen

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

“A Festive Gloria”

by Jay Althouse  
Westminster Choir (6th–12th grade)

READING 1 FROM JOHN 1:1-14

“Will You Be Ready?”

by Mark Patterson  
Angel Choir (3rd–5th grade)

Video: “The Gift of Expectancy”

READING 2 FROM Luke 1:26-33

“Be Born in Me”

Ally Wolf, solo

READING 3 FROM LUKE 2:8-15

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

arr. Harrington/Glick  
Westminster Choir (6th–12th grade)  
Solos: Sarah Flaherty, David Hamilton

READING 4

Video: “The Living Nativity”

“Away in a Manger”  
Voices in Praise

READING 5 FROM MATTHEW 2:1-11

“He Has Come for Us”

Voices in Praise, Horns in Praise

READING 6

“Miraculum” and “O Holy Night”

arr. Mark Johnston  
Voices in Praise, Horns in Praise, Handbells

READING 7

“O Holy Night—reprise”  
(all stand and sing)

GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU